



A SERVICE *of*
Nine Lessons and Carols

December 23, 2018

Christmas Flowers

The following is a list of donations to the Chancel Guild Fund, given to the glory of God.

In Memory of:

Emily Smith Britton, William J. Britton III, Louise and Frank Smith, and Elizabeth M. Cross and George H. Cross by Cynthia and Mike Cross, Annie and Michael Cross, and William Cross; Mr. J. Fred Tarkington, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Anderson, and Mr. and Mrs. J. Fred Tarkington, Sr. by Ferrin T. Mavar; John Curtis by Anne, Peggy, and Jay; Pat Newman Walker by Dot Walker and family; Herbert Hunt by his family; Jim Chase by his family; Charlie Cash and George and Elaine Walker by Dee Walker; Mr. and Mrs. William D. Nicholson by their children and grandchildren; John Evans McKee and daughter Kay McKee Spear by Mrs. John Evans McKee, wife and mother; John and Margaret Whittemore and Russell and Rachel Schulte by John and Marilyn Whittemore; Jenny and Bill Wunderlich by Gayle W. Hardee; Franklin and June Crowe by Cathy Crowe; Kyle Klepper, Lisa Joy Remeur, Milla Gieselmann, and Meg Garrott by Bette Bush and Walker Bush; Mike Tackett by Steve Tackett; Marlene Jordan by Don Jordan; Marilee Williams by her husband and children; Carolyn "Cacky" Bruno Hollis by David, Betsy, Griffin, and Walker Brown; Charles and Ruth Cobb by their son and daughter-in-law, Chuck and Scottie Cobb; Henry C. Pitts, Jr. by his family; Mr. and Mrs. James M. Hamlett, Jr. and Harry H. Jones, Jr. by Dr. and Mrs. Chip Hamlett; Forest L. Morgan by Shelly and Allan Bloor; Dorothy L. Davis and Harry "Skip" Sharp by Glenda D. Sharp; Dr. Allen Boyd by Janis Boyd, Dr. Dan and Teresa Boyd, and Lundy, Steve, and Joseph Carpenter; Dorothy Albert by Mike and Becki Albert; Milla Gieselmann and Alice Howard by Tim and Katherine Russell; Ann and Sam Cox, Jr. by Jay, Ann, and Sam Cox and Janet and Bill Harritt; Duane Sichveland by the Carter Campbell Family; Russ Billings and Sara Misner by Janet Misner; Liz Wellborn by Barbara Blair; Mr. Mark R. Coleman, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Flint Sawtelle, Mrs. Priscilla Sawtelle Harris, Mrs. Lucille Carter Tansey, and Mr. Bo Nance by Bob, Deb, Caroline, and Carter Coleman; Kyle Klepper, Joy Remeur, Milla Gieselmann, and Meg Garrott from the Shine Ministry by Anonymous; Wilton Hazelwood by Sandy Hazelwood; Dr. Joseph Perry Rowland by Brad and Nicole Jones; my husband, George P.W. Williams, by Carolyn Williams; Mr. and Mrs. Warner Young by Cristina Wilson; John Shanks by Betty Shanks and Family; Charles Akins, M.D. by Janice and David Wooley; Bucky Shappley by Pat Shappley; Forrest Morgan by Judith and Bruce Campbell; Jim Wilson by Marilyn Wilson; Forrest Spence by his parents and siblings; Dr. John Nash by Barbara Nash; James E. Boone and Helen P. Boone by Kate Boone and Joe Boone; Dr. W. Kimbrough Boren, Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. House, Sr., Mr. Charles H. House, Jr., and Mrs. Lucy Boren by Mrs. Kimbrough Boren; Bebe and Sam Sorrells by Dotsie Graham; Mary Jo and John Phillips III and Edgar H. Bailey by Paige and John Phillips IV, Ivy and John Phillips V, Paige and Paul T. Gillespie III, and Bailey and William C. Kaelin; Frederick C. Schaeffer by Paige and John Phillips IV; Lindy Sparks Ruffin, Forrest McCord Ruffin, and Alice Moffatt Howard

by Eileen, Dan, Daniel, and Ruffin Wood; Joe Davis, Jr. by Diane Davis; Mr. Forrest Linton Morgan by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Thornton and family; Dr. and Mrs. John R. de Witt by Greg, Kelli, Alix, and Olivia de Witt; Barbara and Jim Whipple and Mimi and Bob Heard by Lyndi and Rob Heard; Bettye and Lewis Taliaferro by their daughters Elizabeth, Margaret, and Mary; Asher "Ace" Roberts by Collier and Preston Roberts; James D. Collier by Richard and Christina Roberts; Carolyn Hollis by Dr. David and Elizabeth Brown; Courtney and Daniel Shores, John Arthur Newton, Joy and Bill Wepfer, and Robert Tipton by the Wepfer family; Dr. and Mrs. Charles Leonard by Robb and Hailey Roaten; Steve Rhea, Wilton Hazelwood, Forrest Morgan, Eva Jemison, and Betty and Louis Britt by Lucy and John Wepfer.

In Honor of:

Lee and David Bowen, the Music Ministry, the Caring Ministry, and George Robertson by Janet Misner; Dial Boyle Jackson and Ruth Morrison by the Price Morrison Family; Lucy Wepfer by Janey Newton; Jackson, Henry, and Eleanor Bridgforth by Mr. and Mrs. David R. Bridgforth, Jr.; Bette Bush, Ginna Rauls, Estelle Curtis, and all of the Shine Volunteers by Anonymous; Caring Ministry by Marilyn Wilson; Dr. and Mrs. Carl Anderson by their grandchildren, Witt, Pender, and Georgianna Wells; Eileen Wood by Martha Hester; Jane Cash by Dee and Christy; Gene and Kathy Cashman's 54th Wedding Anniversary by their four children; Mr. and Mrs. Bob Yarbrough, Dr. and Mrs. Bob Richardson, and Mrs. June Ohlendorf by the L. B. Myhr, Jr. Family; Miss Patricia Boren, Mr. Richard Boren, and Mr. Robert Boren by Mrs. Kimbrough Boren; Ann P. Bailey by Paige and John Phillips IV, Ivy and John Phillips V, Paige and Paul T. Gillespie III, and Bailey and William C. Kaelin; Mrs. Sheppie Quinn by John and Britton Laughlin; Our Missionaries by Ron and Sarah Sadlow; Shepherd Group 4 by Lucy and John Wepfer.

In Gratitude for:

All of the Shine Ministry Helpers by Bette Bush and Walker Bush; the Prayer Warriors of Second Presbyterian Church by Frances and Alex Thompson; Anne, Kemp, Jr., and CoCo Conrad by Kemp Conrad; Children's Ministry Leaders and Staff, Christy Young and Spirit & Song Volunteers, and Second Grade Sunday School Teachers by the Elmer Stout Family; Second Presbyterian Church by Sandy and Allison Willson; Christy Young and the Children's Choir Workers by Jim and Pat Corbitt; John and Lucy Wepfer and all you have done for me by Eugene Pidgeon; Boone and Edward by Jay Good; the love and concern of Christian friends by Diane Davis; Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Campbell, Jr. by the Carter Campbell Family; the life of Mary Elizabeth Garrott by her sisters, Allison Garrott Braswell and Brandon Garrott Morrison, her brother, Murray Garrott, and their families.

Order for the Public Worship of God

ORGAN PRELUDE: "Noël Suiss" from *Nouveau livre de Noël* Louis-Claude Daquin
Samuel Metzger, organ

INSTRUMENTAL PRELUDE: "Christmas Fantasy for Violin and Organ" Sigurd Øgaard
Daniel Gilbert, violin

LIGHTING OF THE FOURTH ADVENT CANDLE
Tim, Courtney, Anna, Sara, Lydia, Natalie, and Gabriel Morgan (8:15)
Andrew, Catherine, Stephen, Ruthie, Philip and John Sharpe (11:00)

CALL TO WORSHIP Artez Henderson

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: No. 225 "Once in Royal David's City" IRBY
Stanza 1: Lizzie Sutton, soloist; Stanzas 2-5: Congregation stands and sings

✠ INVOCATION (*please raise hands*)

The First Lesson

God announces that the seed of woman shall bruise the serpent's head.

GENESIS 3:8-19

And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" And he said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten of the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit of the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate." The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel." To the woman he said, "I will surely multiply your pain in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children. Your desire shall be contrary to your husband, but he shall rule over you." And to Adam he said, "Because you have listened to the voice of your wife and have eaten of the tree of which I commanded you, 'You shall not eat of it,' cursed is the ground because of you; in pain you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread, till you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; for you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL: "Remember, O Thou Man" Thomas Ravenscroft

Remember, O thou man, O thou man, O thou man, remember, O thou man, thy time is spent.
Remember, O thou man, how thou art dead and gone, and I did what I can. Therefore repent.

Remember Adam's fall, O thou man, O thou man, remember Adam's fall from heaven to hell.
Remember Adam's fall, how we were condemned all in hell perpetual, there for to dwell.

Remember God's goodness, O thou man, O thou man, remember God's goodness and His promise made.
Remember God's goodness, how He sent His Son doubtless, our sins for to redress. Be not afraid.

The angels all did sing, O thou man, O thou man, the angels all did sing upon the shepherds' hill.
The angels all did sing praises to our heavenly King, and peace to man living with a good will.

*The Chancel Choir
Calvin Ellis, director*

The Second Lesson

Abraham's Son shall be a blessing to all the nations.

GENESIS 22:9-18 Paul Warner (8:15)
Brett Powell (11:00)

When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called the name of that place, "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided." And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham a second time from heaven and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the Lord, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

♠ CONGREGATIONAL CAROL: "Blessed Be the God of Israel" FOREST GREEN

1. Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el, who comes to set us free
2. With prom-ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call,
3. My child, as proph-et of the Lord, you will pre-prepare the way,

and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da - vid's tree.
the oath once sworn to A - bra - ham, from foes to save us all,
to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.

So have the proph-ets long de-clared that with a might-y arm
 that we might wor - ship with - out fear and of - fer lives of praise,
 Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease

God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.
 in ho - li - ness and righ - teous-ness to serve God all our days.
 to drive a - way the gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

The Third Lesson

God promises a Child King who liberates from terrorizing darkness.

ISAIAH 9:2-7 Eddie Foster (8:15)
 Kirsten Scheel (11:00)

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone. You have multiplied the nation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as they are glad when they divide the spoil. For the yoke of his burden, and the staff for his shoulder, the rod of his oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For every boot of the tramping warrior in battle tumult and every garment rolled in blood will be burned as fuel for the fire. For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

CAROL: "For Unto Us a Child Is Born" from *Messiah* G.F. Handel

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given:
 And the government shall be upon His shoulder
 And His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor,
 The mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.

The Fourth Lesson

The Prophet speaks of One who is capable of changing the world.

ISAIAH 11:1-4 Jon McGuirt (8:15)
Josh Preston (11:00)

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide disputes by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

♠ CONGREGATIONAL CAROL: No. 221 "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" ES IST EIN' ROS' ENTSPRUNGEN

The Fifth Lesson

The angel Gabriel salutes the blessed Virgin Mary.

LUKE 1:26-38 Robb Roaten (8:15)
Estelle Curtis (11:00)

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy — the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

CAROL: "Song of Mary" Faye López and Sergei Rachmaninoff

My soul exalts the Lord, my God, and my spirit rejoices in praise to God my Savior.
For he has chosen me, the handmaid of the Lord. Magnificat.
Age to age, generations will call me blessed.
For the favor the Mighty One has shown to His servant, for He has honored me,
The bonds slave of the Lord. In His goodness, His kind compassion,
He sends the Promised One the vow to pay. In remembrance of His great mercy,
The Holy One has done great things, for me. O magnify His holy name.
My soul magnifies the Lord, my God, and my heart rejoices in praise to God, my Savior.
For He has chosen me, the bonds slave of the Lord. Amen.

*Daija McNeil, soloist
Daniel Gilbert, violin*

The Sixth Lesson

Luke recounts the birth narrative of our Lord.

LUKE 2:1-16 Lucy Stevens (8:15)
Carol Overcast (11:00)

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

CAROL: "Emmanuel, God with Us" Luke Gambill

Before You set the edge of time, foundations of the earth and sky,
You saw it all and said that it was good.

The joy was set before Your eyes; You knew that You would give Your life.
You saw it all and said that it was good.

Behold, behold the One, our Love has come.

Behold, behold the One, our King has come.

The heavens warred, the earth stood still, His final breath, He tore the veil.
The angels sang, "Holy is His name."

Defeated death, He broke the grave, our hope returned, the lost are saved.
We lift our voice in never-ending praise.

Emmanuel, God with us forever.

Emmanuel, Savior of the world.

Sunday Night Worship Team

The Seventh Lesson

The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.

MATTHEW 2:1-11 Ron Hickman (8:15)
Yvonne Hardin (11:00)

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet: 'And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.' Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

♠ CONGREGATIONAL CAROL: No. 226 "As with Gladness Men of Old" DIX

The Eighth Lesson

Behold the glory and receive the grace of our incarnate Lord.

JOHN 1:1-14 Gerry Peak

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light. The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

CAROL: "The Word Was God" Rosephanye Powell

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.
The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by Him;
And without Him was not any thing made that was made.

WORSHIP OF GOD WITH THE GIFTS OF GOD

A special offering is being collected today for the Caring Ministry Fund which assists those in need in our church and community. If you would like to contribute, please use the special envelope in the pew rack or mark your check "Caring Ministry Fund."

OFFERTORY CAROL: "Angels We Have Heard on High" arr. Trevor Manor

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, echo back their joyous strains: Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say, what may the tidings be which inspire your heav'nly song? Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Come to Bethlehem and see, Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come adore on bended knee, Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
See within a manger laid; Jesus, Lord of heav'n and earth!
Mary, Joseph lend your aid; with us sing our Savior's birth. Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Faithline Youth Choir

✦PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

✦GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

✦PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION *(please stand)*

The Ninth Lesson

Jesus promises to come and make all things new.

REVELATION 21:3-4 George W. Robertson

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HOMILY: "The Reimagining Power of Advent: New Residence"

✦CONGREGATIONAL CAROL: No. 203 "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" MENDELSSOHN

✦BENEDICTION *(please raise hands)*

✦CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE GLORIA

Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Gloria in excelsis Deo.

ORGAN POSTLUDE: Toccata on "From Heav'n Above to Earth I Come" Garth Edmundson

✦Indicates congregation standing | CCLI License #252778

Welcome

If you are visiting with us today, we welcome you to Second Presbyterian. Please sign our Friendship Pad, which will be passed during the Greetings time of the service.

Breakfast Reception: Following the 8:15 a.m. service, all are invited to the Fellowship Hall for breakfast and visiting. Sunday School/CCs are not meeting today, and the nursery will be closed during this hour.

This Evening: Please note that we will not meet for congregational prayer or Sunday Night Worship this evening. Please join us for Christmas Eve worship tomorrow (schedule below).

Christmas Eve Worship

We invite you to worship with us on Christmas Eve. At 4:00 p.m., the Family Service will feature our annual Christmas video and children's message. At 5:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., our Chancel Choir and Orchestra will accompany a beautiful candlelight communion service. Our Westminster Singers will lead the candlelight communion service at 11:00 p.m. Nursery will be available for ages 4 and under at the 4:00 and 5:30 p.m. services. All services will be held in the Sanctuary.

Weekly Focus on Missions

World Missions: Haley moved to Jordan in April 2018. She is currently engaged in intensive language training in preparation for future ministry as a nurse at Annoor Sanatorium. In August, Haley got to visit the Southern Clinic of Annoor, where she was able to take a break from the language classroom and be back in the medical environment. Her time with the Bedouin people she met there reminded her of their poverty and deep need for Jesus. A week of focused prayer helped Haley put into perspective the spiritual needs of the country she hopes to serve long term upon completion of her language study. Please pray that she would be a blessing to her language tutor and her family, as well as the other students in her English class. Please pray for the girls she met while visiting the clinic, that the Good News would give them great joy and peace.

Mission Memphis: Our partners at Eikon and Nathan Street Ministries ask that we join them in prayer for the Lord to continue to give them vision for ministry to families in the Binghampton community. Pray also that He would meet the ministry's financial needs and would raise up volunteers to help serve people within the community.

General News

Year-End Giving Reminders: Per IRS regulations, year-end gifts not mailed to the church must be placed in the offering plate during worship or delivered to the church office no later than Monday, December 31, 2018 in order to qualify as a charitable gift for the 2018 tax year. Contributions mailed to the church must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service by December 31, 2018 in order to qualify as a charitable gift for the 2018 tax year. (If your mailing envelope is postmarked after December 31, 2018, your gift must be reported as a 2019 gift, regardless of the date on your check.) You may also give online at 2pc.org/giving. The above same rules apply to online giving.

Breaking Down the Walls: The Breaking Down the Walls class will be offered during the CC hour on Sunday mornings for seven weeks beginning January 6. This series explores how, as a church, we can take steps toward being an ethnically diverse body of believers. Classes are interactive and include discussions about history, social justice, education, and reconciliation. The cost for this class is \$10, which covers course materials, and registration is required. Visit 2pc.org/nomorewalls to learn more.

Winter Inquirers Class: You may have faith questions, wish to know more about Second, or you may be ready to pursue membership. Perhaps you are a long-time member, but you still want to know more about church government, worship, or doctrinal issues. Inquirers is for you! The class is a series of four sessions, January 11-13. Visit 2pc.org/inquirers to register. The deadline to register is January 9.

Caring Ministry

Sympathy to:

The family of *Virginia McCormick Turley*, December 14, 2018.

Whit Robison on the death of his mother, *Betty Lee Robison*, December 14, 2018, in Batesville, MS.

In the Hospital (as of 12/18/18):

Barbara Isom, St. Francis
Eva Miller, St. Francis
Helen Cox, Allen Morgan Rehab
Carolyn Branton, Allen Morgan Rehab
Ruth Boyd, Baptist Rehab
Norma McHugh, Shelby Garden Place
Elaine Oakes, Belmont Village
Harry Faulk, Memphis Jewish Home

December Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary for the month of December are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of: *Bernice and George Flinn* by their sons George, Jr., Fred, Carl, and their families; *Brad and Marcia Baker* by the Housholder family; *Mr. and Mrs. William D. Nicholson* by their children and grandchildren; *Son Benjamin, Parents Charles and Madge Smith, and Carl and Diantha Weber* by Bill and Vicki Weber; *Lillian and Thomas Patton* by Claude and Susan Crawford, John and Elizabeth Holmes, and their grandchildren.

Getting Connected at Second

A pastor will be available after the service to pray for you in the Gathering Room, located on the left as you exit the southwest door of the Sanctuary. To find out more about who we are and how you can become part of our church community, or for help with specific concerns, contact Pastor Todd Erickson at todd.erickson@2pc.org.

General Fund Giving Update

July 1, 2018 through November 30, 2018

	November	YTD
Actual:	\$830,242	\$3,146,330
Budget:	\$871,519	\$3,435,171
Variance:	(\$41,277)	(\$288,841)

Visit 2pc.org/giving to give online. Please call 454-0034 or email giving@2pc.org with questions.



About Nine Lessons and Carols

The Service of Nine Lessons and Carols tells the story of the fall of humanity, the promise of the Messiah, and the birth of Jesus in nine Bible readings from Genesis, the prophetic books, and the Gospels, interspersed with the singing of Christmas carols, hymns, and choral music.

The format was based on an order drawn up by Edward White Benson, later Archbishop of Canterbury but at that time Bishop of Truro, in Cornwall, for use on Christmas Eve 1880. Tradition says that he organized a 10:00 p.m. service on Christmas Eve in a temporary wooden shed serving as his cathedral and that a key purpose of the service was to keep men out of pubs on Christmas Eve.

The original liturgy has since been adapted and used by other churches all over the world. The best-known version has broadcast annually from King's College, Cambridge, on Christmas Eve since 1918. It features carols sung by the College's famous choir. Our tradition at Second Presbyterian Church is based on this service.